

Introduced by Senator Cox

February 26, 2007

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 23—Relative to Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 23, as introduced, Cox. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of September 2007 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month to raise awareness about the importance of early detection and treatment of prostate cancer.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates one in six
2 men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime and there will
3 be approximately 218,890 new cases of the disease in the United
4 States in the current year, resulting in nearly 27,050 deaths; and
5 WHEREAS, In California, prostate cancer is the most common
6 cancer among men in almost all race and ethnic groups and
7 African-American men are 50 percent more likely to develop this
8 disease than any other group of men; and
9 WHEREAS, In California, approximately 18,865 men will be
10 diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and each day more than
11 eight California men will die from this disease; and
12 WHEREAS, While prostate cancer is a leading cause of cancer
13 deaths in men, little is known about this disease, and there are
14 usually no symptoms in the early stages; and
15 WHEREAS, The survival rate approaches 100 percent when
16 prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 33

1 percent when the disease spreads to the other parts of the body;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Early detection is the key to survival and the
4 American Cancer Society recommends that every man should be
5 offered an annual prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood test and
6 digital examination determined by his age and risk factor; and

7 WHEREAS, Men who have several close relatives who were
8 diagnosed with prostate cancer at an early age could begin their
9 testing at 40 years of age; and

10 WHEREAS, Men who have a father, son, or brother who had
11 prostate cancer before 65 years of age and African-Americans
12 should begin their testing at 45 years of age; and

13 WHEREAS, Other men who have a life expectancy of at least
14 60 years should begin their testing at 50 years of age; and

15 WHEREAS, The Legislature joins communities across our
16 nation to increase the awareness about the importance of early
17 detection and treatment of prostate cancer; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
19 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
20 September 2007 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State
21 of California and that public officials and the citizens of California
22 are encouraged to observe the month with appropriate activities
23 and programs; and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
25 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.